



Dr. Walter M. Griffith

Materials scientist recently named society trustee

by Pete Meltzer, Materials and Manufacturing Directorate

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, OHIO — A leading materials scientist at Air Force Research Laboratory's Materials and Manufacturing Directorate was recently named a trustee of the 42,000-member ASM International professional society. Dr. Walter M. Griffith, chief of the directorate's Metals, Ceramics and Nondestructive Evaluation (NDE) Division, recently began a three-year term on the Board of Trustees, where he will help oversee the organization's 250 chapters located in more than 100 countries.

Griffith has been an effective advocate of metallic and ceramic materials and their composites, intelligent processing strategies, manufacturing technologies and NDE for more than 25 years. His selection recognizes his exemplary oversight directing and managing a broad based research and development program, and highlights a career dedicated to strengthening the Air Force and the nation's aerospace materials community.

Griffith has had a significant impact on aerospace materials in the United States and worldwide. Early in his career, as a bench scientist and program manager, he led the development of a new class of dispersion-strengthened aluminum alloys capable of withstanding temperatures more than twice the tolerance level of conventional age-hardened aluminum alloys. Several of these alloys have been produced and marketed commercially by major U.S. manufacturers.

Since joining the directorate's management team in 1986, he has played a critical role in the development of new materials technologies and processes for the Air Force, coordinated essential research and development efforts, and helped determine technical areas of responsibility within the Department of Defense.

Griffith directs the activities of 165 personnel, including some 60 scientists and engineers, and manages an annual budget of more than \$27 million. He also serves as a member of the executive group that oversees the Air Force's materials research and development program.

Griffith has been an active member of ASM for 30 years. He was selected "Outstanding Young Member" of the Dayton Chapter in 1982 and served for seven years as an officer on Executive Committee, including the chairman's post.

The society's members are actively involved throughout the materials community as engineers, managers, scientists, researchers, teachers, students, marketing professionals, equipment manufacturers and suppliers. The society's mission is to gather and disseminate technical information and foster the understanding and application of engineered materials and their research, design, reliable manufacture, use and economic and social benefits. @